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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

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EO 12958, 25X  
IPS/CR/IR by SD Date: 8/30/01

FOR COORDINATION WITH <sup>ed</sup> State

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD//J2/INTAFF/SCJ2-PLOPS//  
E.O. 12356: DECL 02/05/89  
TAGS: BL, FR, GE, PREL, PINS  
SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF KLAUS ALTMANN-BARBIE  
1. (U) NAZI WAR CRIMINAL KLAUS BARBIE (ALIAS KLAUS ALTMANN) WAS EXPELLED FROM BOLIVIA ON FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 4. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, BARBIE LEFT ON A BOLIVIAN AIRPLANE BOUND FOR FRENCH GUIANA FROM WHERE HE WAS TO BE TAKEN TO FRANCE. THE GOVERNMENT'S RESOLUTION EXPELLING BARBIE STATED THAT HE HAD ENTERED THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY ACCORDING TO THE IMMIGRATION LAW OF JANUARY 18, 1911, AND A SUPREME DECREE OF JANUARY 20, 1937. THE PRESS STATED THAT INTERIOR MINISTER RONCAL ASSERTED THAT THE PENALTY FOR THESE VIOLATIONS WAS EXPULSION BY BOLIVIA'S EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES. RONCAL EXPLAINED THAT BARBIE WAS SENT TO FRANCE BECAUSE NONE OF BOLIVIA'S NEIGHBORS WOULD ACCEPT HIM.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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2. (C) FRENCH AMBASSADOR CESSAIRE TOLD AMBASSADOR ON THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 4 THAT THE DEPARTURE WAS "IMMINENT". ON FEBRUARY 5, HE TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT THE OPERATION HAD GONE "VERY WELL" AND THAT THE EXPULSION WOULD HAVE A GOOD BUT UNSPECIFIED EFFECT ON FRANCO-BOLIVIAN RELATIONS.

3. (LOU) COMMENT: BARBIE'S EXPULSION WILL IMPROVE BOLIVIA'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE, AND SHOULD LEAD TO BETTER RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, WHICH HAS WANTED THE "BUTCHER OF LYONS" FOR MANY YEARS, AS WELL AS OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. INTERNALLY, BARBIE'S EXPULSION HAS REMOVED ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZERS OF THE PARAMILITARY GROUPS WHICH SUPPORT THE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS AND OVERTHREW THE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT IN JULY 1980. THERE MAY BE SOME POLITICAL CRITICISM FROM THE RIGHT, HOWEVER. BARBIE WAS A NATURALIZED BOLIVIAN CITIZEN WHOSE CITIZENSHIP HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN UPHELD. THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S EXPULSION DID NOT ADDRESS THE CITIZENSHIP QUESTION AT ALL. THE NATIONALIST DEMOCRATIC ACTION (ADN) PARTY OF FORMER PRESIDENT HUGO BANZER, WHO NATURALIZED BARBIE, MAY WELL CRITICIZE THE GOVERNMENT FOR ABANDONING THE RULE OF LAW. WE HAVE ALREADY HEARD SOME OPPOSITION DEPUTIES QUESTION THE EXPULSION'S LEGALITY AND OTHERS ASK WHY HE WAS NOT EXPELLED TO GERMANY, HIS COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT THINK THAT THESE OR ANY OTHER CRITICISMS WILL BE FORCEFUL OR EFFECTIVE.

DRAFTED BY DAVID G. WAGNER.

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